

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4297

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to review, update, and revise certain regulations relating to assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2009

Mr. HODES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to review, update, and revise certain regulations relating to assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rural Disaster Assist-
5 ance Improvement Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE FACTORS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to provide more objective
3 criteria for evaluating the need for assistance to individ-
4 uals and to speed a declaration of a major disaster or
5 emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
6 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.),
7 not later than one year after the date of enactment of this
8 Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Manage-
9 ment Agency, in cooperation with representatives of State
10 and local emergency management agencies, shall review,
11 update, and revise through rulemaking the factors consid-
12 ered under section 206.48 of title 44, Code of Federal
13 Regulations, to measure the severity, magnitude, and im-
14 pact of a disaster.

15 (b) RURAL AREAS.—In carrying out subsection (a),
16 the Administrator shall consider any disproportionate im-
17 pacts of disasters on rural areas, including rural areas in
18 which a relatively small number of residences are damaged
19 or destroyed.

○